

THE MICHIGAN FARMER



AND FAMILY MESSENGER.

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THE MICHIGAN FARMER,

A SEMI-MONTHLY Agricultural and Family Paper, designed to interest and entertain Farmers, Stock-Raisers, Fruit-Growers, Mechanics, and the Families of all classes.

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EXPLANATION.—It all may see just how their account with the Farmer stands at all times we have adopted the following practice: All subscriptions will expire with one of the months of the year. Those whose names have no figures after them on the address slip have paid or been paid for till January 1st, 1863; those having a figure 2, to the second month—February of this year; those having 2-63, to the second month of next year; those having a figure 3, to the third month—March—of this year; those having 3-63, to the third month of next year, 1863, and so on.

NOTICE.—When a person receives the Farmer, the bare receipt of it is evidence that the rec. plent, or some other person, has paid for it, or else that we intend to make a gift of it.

Those who receive an unordered copy will please understand us as saying **Please Subscribe!**

Our New Face.

Well, how does it suit? It is of our own design, and engraved expressly for us, but to use in a former journal, which has now been merged into the CHRISTIAN HERALD.

Is it not appropriate? The Capitol building is indicative of our devotion to our country, and the farm and household scenes most assuredly need no explanation.

Show us a handsomer looking sheet than the Michigan Farmer now is,—and we will “try, try, again.” You see we are going right along—bound to get up a tip top paper notwithstanding our encouragements were not sufficient to continue it weekly.—

Jump right aboard and go along with us, you who have not yet subscribed! We can't wait for you—got too much to do to stop for trifles!

Visit Your Schools.

Not once only, but often. Drop in every few days. Don't believe every report that circulates relative to how the teacher does this, and neglects that, and so on. Call and get acquainted with him at school.

See that the school room is comfortable, and everything as convenient as possible. See also that it is kept well ventilated, so that your precious ones may not come out of school with poisoned blood and injured brain.

Give the teacher to understand that you don't want your children *stupefied* with answers to book questions. Counsel him to give no encouragement to rivalry, where it leads to excessive study. This has made a wreck of many a promising intellect. Moderate study, plenty of play, good government—kind but firm, prompt and strict obedience together with courtesy toward each other, are requisites for a good school.

But amongst the rest be careful not to be

over-officious. Be observing, and carefully broach such suggestions as seem really important, remembering at the same time that the teacher should have his own way, where it is not positively objectionable. Where it is so, if he is *fit* to teach he will listen to kindly suggestions.

“A STITCH IN TIME.”—Take a fine saw and cut off an inch or two from the end of each horn of every hooking animal on your premises. This will perhaps save wounds and death to smaller animals, and possibly to a human being. Think of it—act upon it.

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Agricultural Department.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Report to the American Pomological Society.

(Continued.)

Pears Worthy of General Cultivation, for Market Purposes.

Bartlett. Sept. Inclined to over-bear, while very young, to the detriment of the tree.

Beurre Claireau. Oct. Nov. Large, beautiful, productive.

Beurre d' Anjou. Oct. Nov. One of the finest of its season.

Buffum. Sept. Tree hardy, upright, vigorous, very productive.

Doyenne, White. Sept. Oct. Fruit fair, beautiful and excellent.

Flemish Beauty. Sept. Apt to blow down. Good, but short-lived.

Louise Bonne de Jersey. Oct. Large, beautiful, productive.

Madelaine. July. The earliest profitable pear. Healthy and productive.

Napoleon. Sept. Productive, vigorous. Fruit large and fine.

Onondaga. Oct. Large, fine, prolific, profitable.

Sterling. First of Sept. Large, beautiful, productive. Tree upright, vigorous.

Vicar of Winkfield. Nov. Jan. Tree unexceptionable. Fruit large and fine.

Winter Nelis. Dec. Jan. Tree straggling, great bearer. Fruit excellent.

Plums Worthy of General Cultivation, for Market Purposes.

Like the Peach, the Plum was once a sure and profitable fruit in this State; but, more recently, the curculio has asserted his claim to the "lion's share" of the fruit, in all the older portions of the State, while a sort of leaf blight has in some seasons, robbed the trees, prematurely, of their foliage, leaving them in a state so debilitated as to be incapable of withstanding the severities of Winter. For these reasons, the cultivation of this fruit is now falling into neglect. It is believed, however, that high culture will prove a specific for the cure of the leaf blight, while a strict surveillance, with mallet and sheet, will enable the grower to circumvent the "little Turk," at a cost that will leave a margin for profit.

Bleeker's Gage. Last of Aug. Beautiful and excellent. Yellow.

Coe's Golden Drop. Last of Sept. Large, showy, very late. Yellow.

Green Gage. Middle of Aug. Small but rich. The standard of flavor. Greenish.

Lombard. Last of Aug. Showy. Exceedingly productive. Coarse. Purple.

Prince's Yellow Gage. First of Aug. Rich. Exceedingly productive. Best on light soils.

Reine Claude de Bavay. First of October. Large, excellent. The best of the late varieties.

Washington. Last of Aug. Very large, productive and excellent. Yellow.

White Magnum Bonum. Middle of Aug.

A very large, showy, culinary sort. Yellow. *Raspberries Worthy of General Cultivation, for Market Purposes.*

This fruit, like the Blackberry, is yet too plentiful, in its wild state, to be much grown as a market fruit. All its varieties, with the exception of two or three, are more or less tender, and should be laid down in Autumn, and lightly covered with earth or litter, as a preventive to winter-killing. With this precaution, and thorough culture, there can be little doubt but that the cultivation of this fruit will prove remunerative.

Brinckle's Orange. Vigorous, prolific, excellent. Yellow.

Franconia. Firm, productive and good.—Red.

Red Antwerp. (True.) Very firm, moderately productive. Good.

Strawberries Worthy of General Cultivation, for Market Purposes.

Large Early Scarlet. An old favorite with many growers.

Wilson's Albany. Very large and prolific. Has surpassed all others.

Pears Worthy of General Cultivation, on Quince Stocks.

In the estimation of this Committee, the cultivation of this fruit, on the Quince, has not been sufficiently tried to warrant them in recommending the planting of dwarfs, for the supply of our markets, at the rates which such fruits usually command. We, therefore, prefer to leave this an open question; and hence we disconnect this from both the market and amateur lists.

Beurre d' Amalis. Sept.

Beurre d' Anjou. Oct. Nov.

Beurre Diel. Oct. Nov.

Beurre Langelier. Dec. Jan.

Buffum. Sept.

Catillae. Nov. Mar.

Fordante d' Antonne. Sept. Oct.

Glout Morceau. Dec.

Louise Bonne de Jersey. Oct.

Napoleon. Sept.

Nouveau Poiteau. Nov.

Rostiez. Aug. Sept.

Rousselet Stuttgard. Aug.

Stevens' Genesee. Sept.

Summer Franc Real. Sept.

Urbaniste. Sept. Nov.

Vicar of Winkfield. Nov. Jan.

White Doyenne. Sept. Dec.

T. T. LYON.

Plymouth, Jan. 13th, 1862.

(To be continued)

For the Michigan Farmer.
Gardening.

This very important branch of agricultural industry is often sadly neglected, except it may be in our large villages and in the vicinity of cities; and yet no one object of husbandry is more deserving of attention, or yields a better profit for the amount of labor invested.

In introducing the subject of gardening, the first natural element to be considered is the soil, which should be light, (not sandy,) deep, and fertile. Some writers assert that

where the soil is hard, untractable, and clayey, a coating of sand very much improves it. But this theory is disputed by the best authors upon English husbandry; though it has been found by actual experience—which is much better than any improved theory—that the application of clay does very much improve the quality of light sandy soils, giving them strength, tenacity, and adding much to their capacity to retain manures and fertilizers.

It is not to be supposed that amateur gardeners will attempt any material alteration or re-formation of whatever soils may be in their possession for gardening purposes.—Happily the average of soils in our State are naturally adapted for gardening and farm purposes as a general thing, only requiring good cultivation and the proper application of manures to produce satisfactory results.

Actual experiments are of much greater value than the most elaborate theories, which often fail when brought to a practical test.

Improvement we all ought to seek in whatever branch of industry we may be occupied; and no one, however learned, should allow their prejudices or self-knowledge to stand in the way of the march of human progress in their souls. New modes of culture, new varieties of plants and vegetables, treatment of soils, &c., are constantly being brought to light; and shall a person suffer his farm or business to fall into decay, simply because he deems the same an innovation upon old established customs, refusing to give any new invention or method a fair trial?

Things which of themselves often appear trifling and valueless, many times produce great results in their aggregate.

Have we any good reason to condemn a new discovery or invention on the ground that, because the matter was unknown and unpracticed by our fore-fathers and that they managed to exist without it, therefore, we can afford to reject all forms of improvement?

In village gardens, too much is put upon the soil: The land is overtaxed. On a plat of ground, say four by eight rods, will be planted apple, peach and pear trees, currants, gooseberries, raspberries, quinces, grapes, strawberries, etc., &c., and then in addition to all these—which, it may be, occupy every rod of ground, and perhaps are themselves overcrowded, starving for want of proper and sufficient nutriment—the same garden is expected to produce an abundant supply of peas, beans, squashes, corn, potatoes, cabbages, tomatoes, beets, onions, parsnips, lettuce, celery, &c., and because it does not the poor perspiring operator throws down his spade and hoe in despair, exclaiming—"I have no faculty—my soil is worthless—the seed was not good—the season has been unpropitious—a garden never amounts to anything with me, any way—it's cheaper to buy one's vegetables at the market and save all this labor and vexation!"

Well, such an one is deserving of some sympathy, and yet may not the whole secret of the want of success be explained upon the hypothesis, that trees and shrubs had exhausted all the valuable properties of the soil within their reach, and there was in consequence, really nothing for the vegetables to feed upon.

Many a plot of ground seems available and of good dimensions in the Spring, before the leaves have put out on the surrounding bushes, but in mid-summer it is found to be completely in the shade of some tree or shrub and entirely valueless for cultivation.

If the ground be *bare* or *apparently* uncultivated, it does not follow as a rule that vegetables or grain will grow upon it, for it may be in the vicinity of a row of currant bushes or an apple or pear tree, each of which send out long searching roots in every direction which draw largely upon the soil for a great distance.

This fact is undoubtedly overlooked in very many instances; especially in our large towns, where the over-eager owner or occupant will attempt to grow an orchard of "dwarfs and standards" at the expense of all the different varieties of plants and vegetables enumerated above.

Now we can but earnestly deprecate the practice of crowding the soils of our gardens in this manner, especially as fruit trees proper, do not average to yield a return at all in proportion to the expense of their cultivation and the value of the ground they occupy, or in comparison to the amount of vegetables that could be grown in their stead.

F. L.

Kalamazoo, Jan. 14th, 1862.

Plans and Purposes of the Michigan Agricultural College.

Very numerous inquiries are made by farmers throughout the State in regard to the purposes and plans of the Agricultural College. I recognize the strict propriety of these inquiries. Perhaps sufficient pains have not been taken to afford the information desired. The institution was established in obedience to the demand, or at least expressed wish of very many leading farmers of the State. The success of European schools, coupled with the evident need of some special agency to promote the interest of agriculture in this country, had gradually produced a public sentiment favorable to the creation of a college devoted to the benefit of this large farming class. The institution was formed at the institution of no party and no sect. It was created for the farmers of Michigan as a whole, and no creed, either in politics or religion has any right to demand a hearing within its walls. In the general legislation of the State, it would be just as reasonable to proscribe all farmers that did not belong to some particular party or church as to proscribe for opinion's sake in respect to the advantages to be derived from such an institution. I seriously regret that any party feeling has ever been harbored in regard to the college. Men may divide off into parties to carry out their purposes in civil government and may fight for office; but never, no, never, should this policy embrace our institutions of learning. From the primary school to the college political differences should never be thought of. This should be common ground for all, sacredly and perpetually so. In its spirit and management the college has never been obnoxious to the charge of partizanship. Its students have been of every shade of political opinion; and the utmost cordiality has prevailed; and I hope the time is near when the college shall everywhere be considered only in the light of a general means of improvement, common, in its fullest sense, to all.

Perhaps there is no better time to reply to the inter-

rogatories of farmers than an occasion like this where so many intelligent agriculturists are assembled for consultation and improvement.

There was one idea somewhat prominent among the reasons favoring the creation of such a college, namely, the desirability of a series of systematic and carefully conducted experiments in agriculture. To the thoughtful farmer a vast field of research appeared which was yet wholly unexplored. There was certainly work enough to do to employ the most efficient means that could be devised. It was true, not only that farmers generally would not on their own private account, and at their own private expense, institute any extended series of experiments; but that it was quite impossible in most cases to control the facilities necessary to make the experiments specially instructive. It will be borne in mind that agriculture is wholly the creature of experiments. Our knowledge of methods is the result of trial. We have observed the effect of modified forms of soil culture under a great variety of circumstances, and hence have arrived at some plain general conclusions.—As agriculture, therefore, has had its foundations laid in experiments, and its whole superstructure reared thereon, we may reasonably look to this source for still further improvements. But it is well known that most of the experiments are conducted with too little precision, and too limited knowledge of the principles involved, to afford very decisive results. Agriculture has mostly grown up from experiments, which were very simple and easy to perform, and the lessons thus learned are in great part such as casually appear from imperfect methods. But there are many truths of great moment which cannot thus be brought to light. Those principles which are fitted to revolutionize agriculture lie more deeply in the heart of nature; they require more penetrating research. No random observations can settle these profound questions which are at the very foundation of agriculture itself. But the work must be wrought out in the following manner: The exact state of agriculture as determined by all the investigations thus far made, must be accurately noted; and then commencing at this stage of progress as a starting point, all the aid which the several branches of science and the most perfect art can render should be used in evolving the principles sought. And how many problems there are which can be solved only in connection with the most thorough knowledge of chemistry or vegetable and animal physiology! Is it reasonable to expect that farmers shall possess a full and comprehensive set of chemical apparatus for the wide range of analyses and determinations necessary in these investigations; that they should take the time required to make such determinations, when frequently a single analysis to be complete and afford the instruction sought would consume the continuous labor of six weeks to two months; or that one farmer in ten thousand could spare the time needed to gain so thoroughly practical a knowledge of chemical manipulations as would prepare him to make that complex class of analyses demanded by these investigations? I do not believe that to any great extent we can rely on private enterprise for this species of labor. If at all, it must be done under the auspices of the public.

Again, is it not possible to adopt a system by which the greater number of experiments both simple and complex can be performed at one place, and the people of the State be made acquainted with the nature of these experiments and the results reached, thus avoiding the necessity of their endless repetition? Why cannot a single trial be substituted for five hundred trials? As it is, each farmer must experiment for himself. From a want of concert of action, and ignorant of what others have done, or are doing, the same experiments may be repeated an indefinite number of times, thus indefinitely increasing the time consumed and the expense incurred. Cannot these experiments be mostly presented at the college, and by full and detailed publication of methods and results officially made, afford the people the information sought at an immense saving of expense?

I do earnestly wish that the farmers of Michigan would not consider this department of the college as disconnected from their interest; but that it is established for the very purpose of enabling them to do by proxy what they cannot so easily and conveniently do themselves. And I will tell you how you can make it eminently useful. In the first place, consider it as belonging to you, and those that are placed in charge, as there to meet your wants, to aid you individually in your pursuits. In the second place, render those who have the responsibilities of the institution on their hands, efficient aid in aiding you. They need your assistance or they cannot perform for you this work as it

should be done. They need to enter into intimate consultation with you, to get your ideas, and an expression of your wishes.

This then I would suggest, that when any question in agriculture seems to you to need further investigation, freely write to the officers there; state the facts as they appear, your own views on the same, the class of experiments which would probably settle the question, and the mode you would recommend of prosecuting such experiments. Let all thinking and progressive farmers do this; provide your combined assistance; take hold of the matter as though it were strictly business of your own, and in every instance the questions proposed for investigation, unless it should be found that they have been already settled, will undergo examination as soon as the circumstances will permit. At the proper time the results of such investigations may be officially given to the public, and great good accomplished. I wish to urge upon you not to stand aloof, but to heartily co-operate in solving these problems in agriculture. Using the college as a common and central agency in this great work, can we not unitedly bring about important results in advancing the interests of our profession?

Very unfortunately for its early movements, the college was located in the woods, and several years were therefore required to subdue the soil sufficiently for any instructive experiments in soil culture. On a portion of the estate the obstructions are being rapidly removed, and this very necessary department of the institution may now gradually be put in operation.

Another purpose of the college is to furnish instruction in science and its applications to agriculture.

The difficulty of imparting to the public any very thorough knowledge of science through the press is appreciated by every one. Very few persons will consent to read in the journals of the day that which requires close study or intense thought, and rarely, indeed, do we find an individual that has entered upon a course of scientific reading while engrossed in his daily business, especially if he had not acquired a taste for science in our schools, and had there made considerable progress in the same. And then there are difficulties attending the pursuit of science away from college that do not exist in college. In institutions of learning extensive apparatus and other material for experiments and illustrations are collected, which in many instances are strictly necessary to a correct knowledge of the subject under investigation. And there is another fact: Ordinarily the course in life is determined in youth, and unless at this period a taste be gained for science,—unless habits or research be early formed, in most cases they will not be gained at all. And the only way to create a taste for science, is to bring the young into communion with science.—Place the soul in sympathy with truth; let it cherish an active love for truth, so that it delights to dwell in its presence, and you have but to throw them into each other's society to ensure perpetual friendship. If you create a scientific interest in the mind of the young in those things with which they must ever have to do, you cannot prevent their being life students. Start them on such a theme of study where a thousand questions press on them for solution,—where at every turn some new facts claim their attention; some new mystery rises up before them and invites their philosophy; and you have aroused a healthy mental excitement, a spirit of inquiry that must lead to the grandest results. A man may have the powers of an angel, and unless called into action they are of no more use than those of a sleeping child. A caged lion is as harmless as a caged bird. A magazine of powder has no more of terror than a mass of stone unlesss fired to perform its work of destruction. The massive cannon is not more an object of dread than the unwrought metal, except when loaded with the implements of death. If, then, the farming community are to become generally interested in science, they must be fed with the truths of science in early life. And this end cannot be secured unless adequate provision be made for it. These appliances must be brought to bear upon their minds which will lead them into communion with nature, which will lead them to form an intimate acquaintance with those forces which control the phenomena of the material world.

The Agricultural College, therefore, to meet this want, should provide very thorough instruction, especially in the natural sciences, accompanied with full discussion of their relations to agriculture. These sciences should be studied much more extensively than in other colleges. It is well known that in our institutions of learning they usually receive the least attention of all the departments of study, either from the want of time, or from the belief that they can be most easily dis-

pensed with. But in a college to promote scientific agriculture, they must hold the very first rank.

Again in such an institution the principles of science should be practically illustrated on the farm. The instructions of the lecture room should be wrought out by direct examples, to show the truth of what is taught; to impress the truth more fully on the mind; and to teach the manner of carrying out in practice what is learned as theory. It is great folly to teach one thing and practice another; and that is not more than half learned which is mere theory without experience.

No college can fully meet the demands of farmers without a farm for illustrations. This is a defect in the ordinary teachings of the press which seriously impairs its usefulness. In one half of the cases the reader cannot tell whether the declarations be true or false without personal trial involving time and expense.

An Agricultural College, therefore, should possess nothing less than an experimental farm, a practical or illustrative farm, with all the means of instruction in science and its application to agriculture.

But have not farmers a right to demand something more? Have they not, co-ordinately with the above, a right to demand for their sons the means of disciplinary education? Would not the college be defective did it not provide for general scholastic instruction, that thus the future farmer might be fitted for the duties that would devolve on him as a man and a citizen? I believe the college cannot accomplish its whole work without the latter. And yet, while I say this, I am convinced that the college should be built upon an agricultural basis; that agriculture should run through and through it; that no department of practical farming should be left unexplained; that the very spirit of the institution should be agriculture. It should be a place of peculiar attractions because of its agricultural advantages; a place where science and practice are beautifully combined; a place that every young man that enters the college shall feel to be pervaded with a high-toned, enabling spirit of agriculture; a place where agriculture is connected with honorable associations, and is felt to be honorable.

In affording instruction in the college there evidently are two objects:

1st. To instruct the students in the philosophy of agriculture, imparting a knowledge of scientific principles which lie at the foundation of soil culture, thereby making the farmer intelligent in his chosen pursuit.

2d. To furnish such general academic instruction as the wants of the farming community require. The institution is designed to fill a broader mission than simply to teach the young the scientific principles of agriculture; it has an additional office, that of elevating the son of the farmer, affording that training which shall fit him, not only for his farm duties, but for the wider duties of life.

The correctness of these conclusions is apparent from the following considerations:

1st. All the general scholastic attainments the students acquire which have not been gained in the common schools of the State, would be secured there.—Were not English language and literature taught in the college, the young men must graduate with so imperfect a knowledge of the medium through which we communicate our ideas as to be poorly qualified for the public duties of life.

2d. No reason can be assigned against providing the means for general academic instruction for the farming class as well as any other. I know it is said that all our colleges and universities are open to the sons of the farmer. This is true. But there is another fact equally true, that if these colleges are not *designed* especially to educate young men for the profession, they certainly almost universally have that effect, so that practically they do not educate the farmer. Fifteen twentieths of the graduates enter the professions. The atmosphere of such institutions, the system pursued, and their entire spirit, are calculated to lead the young away from industrial pursuits. I believe it to be true, that if young men are to be educated for the farm, they must labor on the farm while securing such education, academic as well as agricultural; and hence the necessity of agricultural colleges in which labor is united with study.

In providing this scholastic training there is no conflict with other State institutions of learning. The Normal School educates the teacher because he is a teacher; and the University educates those who seek its advantages because they propose to enter the professions; while the Agricultural College educates such as contemplate engaging in the cultivation of the soil. There

is no other class of institutions which will retain the farmers sons on the farm.

3d. Not only is it demanded that both labor and agricultural education be joined with academic instruction to prevent an alienation of mind from this industrial pursuit, but the professional training of the farmer is aided by the admixture of academic studies. Scientific truths are more easily gained, and make a deeper and more enduring impression, when language, the medium through which truths find their way to the mind, is most perfectly understood. The correctness of this view is distinctly recognized by the law passed by the Legislature at its last regular session.

I have dwelt thus long on the relations of the college because it is the property of the State, because every citizen has a right to know its plans, and all may be supposed to be interested in the successful working of those plans. I have no delicacy therefore in introducing this topic here, but have rather considered it a duty to furnish the information sought by the people of the land. Perhaps before closing I ought to give a brief summary of some of the benefits to accrue from the college.

There are three things which specially distinguish the Agricultural College from other colleges throughout the country.

1st. Researches made for the advancement of agriculture.

2d. The instruction of students in the science of agriculture.

3. Manual labor as an essential part of the system.

Of the first I have already said enough. It was a primary purpose in the establishment of the college to make it a source of original knowledge to the farmers of the State. The experiments were not intended to be simply for the education of the students, but for the enlightenment of the whole agricultural class. And again I ask, can we not by united action put into most vigorous operation an experimental farm where may be solved the various difficult problems in our profession? It appears to me to be a most desirable project, and one that will create a very important species of knowledge. I know of no class of labor in agriculture more necessary and that promises a more abundant harvest.

That a large majority of our people should be engaged in agriculture as a pursuit, giving to it their time and thoughts, consuming therein their physical and mental energies, and devoting to it all their capital, and yet without any adequate provision being made for instruction in the principles which control the same, and make it efficient, I consider one of the most remarkable defects ever known in any system where there is so much at stake. There is no occupation on the face of the earth which requires so much knowledge for its intelligent prosecution, and yet it is with the utmost difficulty that men can be made to believe that it has a right to claim any special provision for educating the rising race of farmers in the mysteries of their profession.—The Agricultural College proposes to afford this much needed instruction, presenting a full discussion of the philosophy of agriculture, accompanying a thorough study of the sciences which illustrate the phenomena of nature. And while it does this, it proposes to elevate agriculture by throwing it into fellowship with study, intimately uniting the two—as it is unnatural violence to divorce them—and thus asserting the pre-eminent right of farming to be considered a learned profession.

One of the most fortunate provisions of the college is its requirement of labor. Every student not physically disabled must work three hours per day. There are many benefits growing out of this. It gives a fuller, more complete knowledge of agriculture than can be gained in any other way. And labor thus becomes ennobled in the estimation of the young. It is a sad trait in our time that a little learning upsets the common sense of our young men, making them feel that the labor of the hands is degrading. It is time there was an end to such folly; that they who consume the wealth of the world should not affect to despise that which creates this wealth. But by making labor a part of the course of instruction, giving it much prominence as any other exercise at the college, its importance is distinctly recognized, and proficiency in the same becomes a laudable object of emulation.

We have, all of us, observed that college training is extremely adverse to manual employment, that the interest in labor is in the inverse ratio of the time spent in study. With the system generally pursued I see not how this can be avoided. Youth is the forming period of character. The habits gained and dispositions generated then will adhere to us through life—they become

a part of our being. Take our youth just as they are verging into manhood; at the time they are contemplating the choice of a profession; at that period when they require most rapidly those habits which cling to them persistently through life; habits of thinking, habits of feeling, habits of doing; and place them beyond the reach of the business world; shut them up within college halls where manual labor is never seen; engross their attention in studies which are in no way related to industrial pursuits; let them form their type of mind there, shut out from active sympathy with labor, and would it not be almost miraculous should they retain a taste for manual employment? "Train the youth to neglect labor, I say, put them where they cannot get labor, where the general sentiment is adverse to labor, and let them thus grow up to mental maturity out of the atmosphere of labor, so that they shall know but little about labor, and care less; and not only will they be unfitted for labor, but their taste will impel them to shun it. No; if we intend our sons for the farm we must educate them to the farm; they must keep up habits of industry; their thoughts must be trained in channels of industry. It is folly to complain that the youth as soon as they commence study acquire a distaste to physical employment, and rush into the professions, when our country's education invariably leads to such results. If no other good should be accomplished by the Agricultural College than interesting educated men in the practical cultivation of the soil, retaining the educated sons of farmers on the farm, and by this means breaking up that caste which places the laboring below the professional man, enabling us thus to turn our best talent to the creation of that wealth which is at the foundation of all national prosperity, it would fill a very important place among the means of human progress.

Systematic labor in college, in addition to the pecuniary aid it furnishes the pupil in the prosecution of his studies—an advantage by no means unimportant—is highly conducive to health. Dyspepsia, and all that class of diseases from which so many suffer in sedentary pursuits, may be forever banished from the school room. Is not the preservation of health of primary importance to every young man?

In the light of the foregoing considerations, can the educational wants of the great farming community be supplied without colleges embracing labor, instruction in scientific agriculture, and experimental researches? Such colleges are eminently successful in Europe—can they not be here?

Perhaps I may be considered as speaking with undue warmth in respect to the interests and elevation of farmers as a class. I trust, however, that those who follow other pursuits will not esteem me unjustly discriminating. My boyhood and early manhood were spent wholly on the farm; and the subsequent years of my life have been devoted, for the most part, to the study of the relations of science to agriculture. And the more thought there is given to this immense subject, the more illimitable appears the field of research. We do not, we never can realize the depth and breadth of truth to which God invites us to in his works. And to no class of men does truth appeal with a more thrilling voice than to the farmer. His very occupation is an incessant handling of forces, which, though silent in their tireless work, are yet omnipotent over the kingdoms of nature. And then a thousand millions of human beings must feed on the products of these forces! and nine-tenths of this great mass of humanity must, directly or indirectly, be profitably employed with these forces, or squandered from ignorance of the same. And not only matter, but spirit; not only body, but mind in all the future of the world must be thrown into intimate association with agriculture. The thoughts of an immense majority of the race must be given to agriculture, and their practical education must be connected with the cultivation of the soil. Shall we not bestir ourselves with an energy commensurate with the dignity and importance of our profession? Shall we not make it second to none other in the mental elevation of those who lay their offerings on its altar, as it must ever occupy the very first place among all the industrial pursuits of the race?—[Prof. Fisk's Address at Romeo.

ARTHUR'S HOME MAGAZINE.—Our "better-half" is exceedingly rejoiced over the receipt of the Jan. and Feb. number of this most excellent home magazine. It is a gem of a monthly, and well worth the \$2 which, if sent to T. S. ARTHUR, Philadelphia, will secure it for a year.

Ohio Sorghum Convention.

This was held at Columbus Jan. 7th.— Forty-two specimens of sirups were entered for the premiums, and as many more brought in that were not entered, and seventeen samples of sugar.

A sample of rum was exhibited by Mr. Sherman from Euclid, Cuyahoga Co., made from the skimmings of the juice, which is considered equal to any other rum produced.

Mr. Myers of Springfield, presented a specimen of wine made from the Sorghum cane, that was quite palatable, and resembles that made from grapes, but did not say how it was manufactured, as he is publishing a work on the subject, which will be for sale in a short time.

The premium of one of Jacobs' Patent Evaporators for best sirup was awarded to Mr. Jacobs, of Franklin Co. Mr. J. thought the planting should be done in accordance with the season and condition of the soil.—

As a common thing, the seed should be soaked; but if soaked or scalded and planted in dry ground, it would fail. The ground should be mellow. One half gallon of seed to the acre was sufficient. If the seed were good, it would bear thinning out, but it should not be suckered. Thought the cane was in the season of maturity for cutting up when the seed was partly turned. If the seed became ripe, the saccharine matter formed wood and fibre; if cut too green, the sirup would be of a lighter color, but less in quantity. The cane should be shocked in the field with the butts on the ground, and protected with corn fodder. It improves in richness by standing some time.

The juice ferments very rapidly after being expressed from the cane, or after the cane is frosted. Thinks the Bi-Sulphite of Lime should be used, as it arrests fermentation.— He uses one pint to one hundred gallons.— The juice should be evaporated as rapidly as possible, as the longer it is exposed to a slow heat, the darker will be the color of the sirup.

The cane should be planted three and a half feet apart, and allow from eight to ten stalks in a hill. Suckers are objectionable, but if planted as above, they will not grow to disadvantage. He cuts the seed head off while in blossom, and then tops the cane again when he goes to work it up, at about the same place he would under other circumstances.

Mr. Hopkins of Richland, had tried the culture of the cane for two years, and had made 1800 gallons of sirup the past season. Clay soil is the best. Muck will not answer. Cane grown on muck made the most juice but less sirup. Had made 72 gallons molasses from one acre of muck cane, and 154 from cane grown on clay. He had used a one horse mill, but it was too small for his operations. Had made sugar whenever he tried.

Judge Gage, chairman of committee on permanent organization, reported the fol-

lowing preamble and resolutions which were adopted.

Whereas, In the opening of this Convention, the cultivation and manufacture of the several varieties of the "holcus saccharatus" or sugar cane, grown in the Northern States of the Union, and in and of themselves scarcely second in importance to any of the field crops now cultivated, and whereas, By the fostering care of the State Legislature through the State Board of Agriculture, other branches of Agriculture have been more fully developed thereby, than could have resulted from unaided individual enterprise: therefore:

Resolved, That we recommend to the State Board the importance of making the cultivation and manufacture of the canes, Imphe and Sorgho, a prominent and distinct feature in their deliberations, by offering such inducements for the best essays thereon as shall call forth the object herein contemplated.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention it is desirable to so amend the legislation of this State, that hereafter the assessors be required to report the number of acres cultivated in these canes, and the number of pounds of sugar and of gallons of sirup made.

The first premium for Sorghum Sugar was awarded to sample made by Jas. Cook of Mansfield and exhibited by Mr. Day.

Mr. Day explained that in order to obtain crystallized sugar from the Sorgho cane shallow evaporation was necessary; that the foreign matter be entirely removed by skimming, and being deposited on the bottom of the pan, that the sirup be boiled to a density of 30° Beaume, and the temperature not be allowed to fall below from 80° to 90° Fahrenheit, until crystallized. He says if care be used, sugar can be produced at all times from good cane.

Mr. Day stated that the fine sample of sugar exhibited by himself, made by Mr. James Cook of Mansfield, crystallized in forty-eight hours after leaving the evaporator, and was drained off the molasses in one hour's time, by enclosing in a strong linen bag and subjecting it to a pressure under a cheese or similar press.

Mr. Hopkins wished to know what size mill was most desirable for working a crop of fifty acres.

Mr. Hodges thought a four horse mill, driving roller not less than twenty inches in diameter and twenty inches long, that the shaft should be large in diameter, upwards of three or three and a half inches, as they will sooner or later break.

Mr. Long thought Gill's No. 7 mill was large enough. He used it with two horses; Thought farmers should buy good mills at first. He said experimenters had most always bought cheat mills at first, and then had to sell them at a great sacrifice in order to buy larger and better ones.

Mr. Newcomb wished to know what was the most durable article for an evaporator.

He thought common iron better than galvanized iron; that zinc coating wore off in one season, and was poisonous.

Mr. Hodges thought copper was the best, but it was too expensive. He thought common iron was next best, and the thicker the better.

Mr. Jacobs had tried galvanized iron, thinking he could make a lighter article of sirup, but found that the common iron was most durable and made just as light an article of sirup.

Mr. Newcomb said he used Cook's Evaporator for defecating his juice, and finished his sirup in a common pan. He used milk of lime (or common whitewash) in the raw juice, and would not do without it; he thought it removed the raw and sharp twang. Said he had used soda, but did not like it, it made a light article of sirup but it tasted unpleasant.

Dr. Warder was called upon to explain the difference in the properties of lime and soda. He said the lime was deposited on the bottom of the pan, while the soda would be incorporated through the sirup.

A Committee was appointed to obtain statistics and information similar to that given at the Convention, and published in pamphlet form for circulation among those interested in the growth of the cane.

Samples of sirup were exhibited from the refinery of Mr. Belcher, of Chicago, said to have been refined from the poorest possible specimens of Sorghum molasses. They were quite dark in color, but were exceedingly pleasant to the taste. The strong, stringent taste so common to Sorghum molasses being entirely removed.

The Potato Rot—Another Remedy.

A correspondent of a French paper states that a cultivator of the potato upon quite a large scale has prevented the rot on a soil "of silex and clay," by planting in sufficient quantity of quicklime slaked to a powder, to surround the tuber completely, and prevent its coming into immediate contact with the soil, thus requiring a shovel to the hill.— After having several times repeated the trial, it is moreover claimed by the experimenter that the tubers thus grown in lime are not only free from the malady themselves, but also that they may be planted afterwards in the usual manner, or with no more lime than is ordinarily employed, without danger of the attack of the rot upon their future products.

The MICHIGAN Farmer has donned a new dress, and will hereafter be published semi-monthly. The Farmer is a good agricultural paper, and being the only one published in the State, should receive a large support from the farmers generally.—[Ann Arbor Journal.

THE MICHIGAN FARMER.—Has donned a new dress, and is now published semi-monthly instead of weekly, at the low price of \$1 per year. The farmers of Michigan ought to consult their interests and make it a paying institution.—[Grand Rapids Enquirer.

 Answer to Original Prize Conundrum in Michigan Farmer of Jan. 4:

"Because they have the largest Breastworks."

Household Department.

For the Michigan Farmer.
So Much Trouble.
BY MRS. M. P. A. CROZIER.

"Fine active children you have, Mary!"

"Active enough, in all conscience, Elizabeth! They're all the time into something to make me trouble! There comes James now—I'll warrant he wants some attention!"

"O mother, mother," called out James, entering the house, "let me take a knife! Joe and I are making a ship; we're going to sail it down in the brook this afternoon!"

Mrs. Marsh made no movement toward gratifying her son's desire.

"Mother, won't you get me a knife?"

"Don't come here bothering me—I can't run to wait on you every minute!"

"But mother," said James, his eyes filling with tears and his voice choking,—

"Go long off and be still, you can't have any knife!" replied she without even lifting her eyes from the garment she was making.

"I declare—that boy's so much trouble!" she added as the poor child moved away.—"What would you do with him, Elizabeth? It's always a ship or steam-boat, or saw-mill, or something or other, and I must run and get knives, and twine, and cloth for sails, and what not! He worries the life out of me!"

Mrs. Holmes made no reply. Very soon she saw James running across the garden with a case-knife in his hand. He had helped himself at the kitchen-drawer, and was returning to his ship-building. She felt pained, for she saw in his disobedience the immediate result of his mother's treatment of him. Just at this moment Mrs. Marsh's little daughter Olive came into the room with her rag-baby in her hand, looking quite as much fretted as her mother had done a few minutes before.

"Ma, I can't make my doll's dress stay right; won't you fix it for me?"

"There 'tis again Elizabeth! You see how much trouble I have, I can't get along with my sewing at all! No, child," said she, turning to Olive, "I have no time to spend fussing with rag-babies! Go back up stairs and be still," she added, as the little girl began to cry. Olive moved slowly toward the door but cried the harder as she receded.

"Olive," said Mrs. Marsh, "come here to me!"

Olive obeyed.

"Ain't you going to be still?" said she, shaking her arm.

"I want my baby's dress fixed!"

"Fix it yourself then! Do you expect I'm going to stop my work every time you want anything done? why don't you be still?" she added, as Olive burst into a fresh paroxysm of crying. Her words made little impression so far as obtaining silence was concerned.

"Here come into the bed-room with me! I'll see if you won't mind!" said she drag-

ging the resisting child from the parlor.—Mrs. Holmes heard the blows of the chastisement inflicted and it seemed as though each fell upon her own heart.

"Did you ever see such acting children?" said the unhappy mother as she returned to her sewing. "There isn't a day that I don't have to give some one of them a whipping!"

Mrs. Holmes listened to the sobs of the suffering child till they became inaudible, and a few minutes afterward, as her mother had evidently forgotten her, and was preparing dinner in the kitchen, she opened the bed-room door and found Olive sleeping on the floor. Her red and hot cheeks still bore traces of her weeping, and as her aunt lifted her carefully upon the bed, another sob burst forth showing that her slumber had not yet entirely quieted her sorrow.

Just as Mrs. Marsh was perspiring over the cook-stove in her efforts to get dinner ready by twelve o'clock precisely, Joseph and James appeared at the kitchen door, the former holding a fine ship in his hand.—"See here, mother," said he, "isn't this a beautiful ship?"

"What do I care about your ships?" said she just glancing up from the frying-pan.

"Mother never cares for anything we make!" said Joseph bitterly, turning away from the door. "Let's go and show it to Aunt Elizabeth," said James.

So the boys went around to the hall near the parlor, and sat down in the front door. They were a little timid for aunt Elizabeth was nearly a stranger.

"What have you there, my boys?" said Mrs. Holmes, looking up from her work, and observing that the children evidently desired her attention.

"A ship!" said James.

"It is a very fine ship,—very fine!" said the lady. "who taught you to build a vessel like that?"

"We learned ourselves!" said Joseph, while the eyes of both boys sparkled with delight.

"You must be quite ingenious! I think I must go down and see you launch it after dinner!"

"Will you?" said both the children in a breath, looking up with evident surprise.

About two o'clock Mrs. Holmes came into the parlor from which she had been absent since dinner.

"Why, I couldn't contrive where you had gone!" said Mrs. Marsh.

"I've been down to see the boys launch their ship!"

"You have!"

"Yes, it is really a beautiful thing! You have reason to be proud of your sons' inventive faculties. I'm sure they will do something for the world if they live to be men! But have you seen their saw-mill down there?"

"Me, no! I never pay any attention to their inventions; they're always getting up something! What is it?"

"Quite a perfect little affair in its way; the mill-dam, the water-wheel, and saw are

all there in working order. An old case knife answers the place of the last."

"There, I'll warrant there's where that knife that I have looked for so much has gone! I'll whip them boys if they don't learn to let things alone!"

Here the bed-room door opened and little Olive who had but just awakened came timidly out. Mrs. Holmes in order to forestall any further harsh treatment of the child put out her arm and called Olive to herself.

"Have you had a sweet sleep darling?" she asked, lifting her in her lap. The little girl looked up wonderingly. Mrs. Holmes caressed her lovingly, and then said, "Now aunty and Olive will go and find some dinner!"

"Don't you leave your work to go and bother with that young one, Elizabeth! Susan can get her dinner."

"No, I would like to do it," said Mrs. Holmes. After Olive had eaten her dinner, her aunt said "Now, dear, bring your dolly, and aunt Libby will fix it for you and then you may sit down in the parlor with your mother and me and make her a new dress!"

The child danced away to bring her doll which Mrs. Holmes arranged to her satisfaction, then taking from her pocket a piece of turkey-red calico, she began to cut it in the form of a little frock. Olive's little heart was "full of happy." "See here," she cried out as she entered the parlor with Mrs. Holmes, soon afterward, "isn't Aunty good, Ma, she gave me this pretty calico, and I'm going to make dolly a new dress!"

"Well don't spoil it!" said her mother, just lifting her eyes from the goose with which she was pressing, to the bright print.

Olive's face looked a little clouded, but she drew her little chair very closely to her Aunt's side and worked for half an hour quietly.

"I wonder if Olive ever sat still so long before?" said Mrs. Marsh, when the child at length left the room commissioned by Aunty to bring a bouquet of violets from the meadow. "I'd like to know where the boys are!" she added; "I haven't seen them since dinner-time; they were around after something!"

"I left them down by their saw-mill studying their lessons!" said Mrs. Holmes.

"Studying their lessons! guess they will be well learned if they are there! They never more than half learned them when I shut them up in their room!"

"We'll see!" said the sister of Mrs. Marsh; and sure enough when they came to recite half an hour later they did so well as, for a wonder, to receive their mother's commendation.

"Guess I shall have to keep you with me to manage the children, Elizabeth," said their mother that evening, "they have not behaved so well as they have this afternoon before in a month."

"I think you have very good children, Mary," she replied.

"I hope your good opinion will last," said Mrs. Marsh, "but you'll soon get tired of fussing with them and then we'll see what you think of the goodness."

"You certainly do not think of bringing up a family without some trouble, Mary, and—excuse me, if I use a sister's privilege and speak plainly,—I think you would find your trouble far less if you were to attend to their little wants than you do by neglecting them, thus bringing upon yourself the necessity of correcting them for faults which otherwise they would not commit—faults which repeated often may become fixed habits and prove their ruin."

Mrs. Marsh looked sober; she was thinking.

Be Patient with the Little Ones.

Be patient with the little ones. Let neither their slow understanding nor their occasional pertness offend you to provoke the sharp reproof. Remember the world is new to them, and they have no slight task to grasp with their unripened intellects the mass of facts and truths that crowd upon their attention. You are grown to maturity and strength, through years of experience; and it ill becomes you to fret at a child who fails to keep pace with your thought. Teach him patiently as God teaches you, "line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little." Cheer him on his conflict of mind; in after years his ripe, rich thought shall rise and call you blessed.

Bide patiently the endless questionings of your children. Do not roughly crush the rising spirit of free inquiry with an impatient word, or frown, or to scold, nor attempt on the contrary, a long instructive reply to every casual question. Seek rather to deepen their curiosity. Convert, if possible, the casual question into a profound and earnest inquiry. Let your reply send the little questioner forth, not so much proud of what he has learned, as anxious to know more. Happy, then, if, in giving your child the molecule of truth he asks for, you can whet his curiosity with a glimpse of the mountain of truth lying beyond, so wilt thou send forth a philosopher, not a silly pedant, into the world!

Bear patiently the childish humors of those little ones. They are but the untutored pleadings of the young spirit for care and cultivation. Irritated into strength, and hardened into habits, they will haunt the whole of your life like fiends of despair, and make thy little ones curse the day they were born; but corrected kindly and patiently, they become elements of happiness and usefulness. Passions are but fires, that may either scorch us with their uncontrolled fury, or may yield us a genial and needful warmth.

Bless your little ones with a patient care of their childhood, and they will certainly consecrate the glory and grace of their manhood to your services. Sow in their hearts the seeds of a perennial blessedness; its rip-

ened fruit will afford you a perpetual joy.

For the Michigan Farmer.

A Glance Backward.

To night a festive scene gathers not far from my home, but I cannot mingle in its gayety. Songs of music and laughter fall coldly on my ear. Memory reverts to by-gone days; days which were spent with the departed ones of earth. One year ago, I gathered with a happy family around the fireside at home. Then I tried to lift the veil of futurity, to see what might be hid beyond, what changes might come ere another New Year rolled around. Could I then have gazed adown the labyrinth of time, and seen the fearful impending trouble through which I was so soon to pass, I should have trembled at the sight.

It is scarce ten months since I returned from school to spend a few weeks at home, before assuming the cares and responsibilities of a teacher. Two weeks from that time, they brought to me my baby brother whom I loved with all the intensity of my nature, in his tiny coffin robed for his last sleep. In the bitterness of my heart, I said, I shall never be reconciled to this chastisement, for I do not deserve it. In a little more than a week I stood by the sick bed of my mother. Friends told me life was ebbing fast, but I would not believe it. My stubborn self-will cried "Father, if it be possible let *this* cup pass from me," but I could not add those other words, "not mine but thy will be done." Vain, foolish creature that I was, to imagine that the purposes of the Deity were to be thwarted by a mere worm of the dust. I was forced to drink the cup to its very dregs. I stood by that form, and saw those eyes unclosed and gaze upward, with a look of more than mortal eagerness, while a smile played over those wan features, and she was gone. It seemed as if she had caught a glimpse of our cherub as she entered the cold, dark river of death, and the sight had cheered her as she passed to that bourne from whence no traveler ever returns. In that moment of awful anguish, when the thought first came with all its crushing force, "Mother is dead" I longed to go with her. Life seemed too much of a burden to be longer desirable. Many times through that long, dark, gloomy day, did I go to that room where death reigned in all his dread grandeur, and lift the snowy covering to satisfy myself that it was really so, that the best friend I ever had was dead. Would to God that it could have proved to be, as it seemed, a terrible dream from which I should awake, to find that it was not a reality.—

When I looked at the great breach which had been made in the family circle, and saw that it must be filled in part by some one, and that I must attempt it, I shrank back, but the brazen sceptre of duty was presented and I yielded. And often as twilight gathers her starry curtain over nature, I fancy that I see two angelic forms, flitting down

to earth on their pinions of light, to comfort and cheer the desolate hearts left behind. I have folded the tiny robe, laid away the forgotten toy, smoothed the impressed pillow, and now I will think of the crown of glory, the harp of gold, and that innumerable, happy throng who are forever singing praises before the throne of the Lamb. And many times through the weary months that have passed since my mother's death when I have retired to rest, wearied, and perplexed with the anxieties of life, and remember the vow I made as I knelt by my dead mother's side to attempt to fill the place, and see how imperfectly it has been fulfilled, I have wept until it seemed as if I had no more tears to shed; and when at last a troubled sleep has come over me a bright vision has flitted through my dreams and a familiar voice whispers in my ear, "my daughter, for thy father's sake and the children of thy dead mother, be faithful to thy trust." And I have been encouraged to make new resolves to be more faithful in the discharge of my duties to the living.

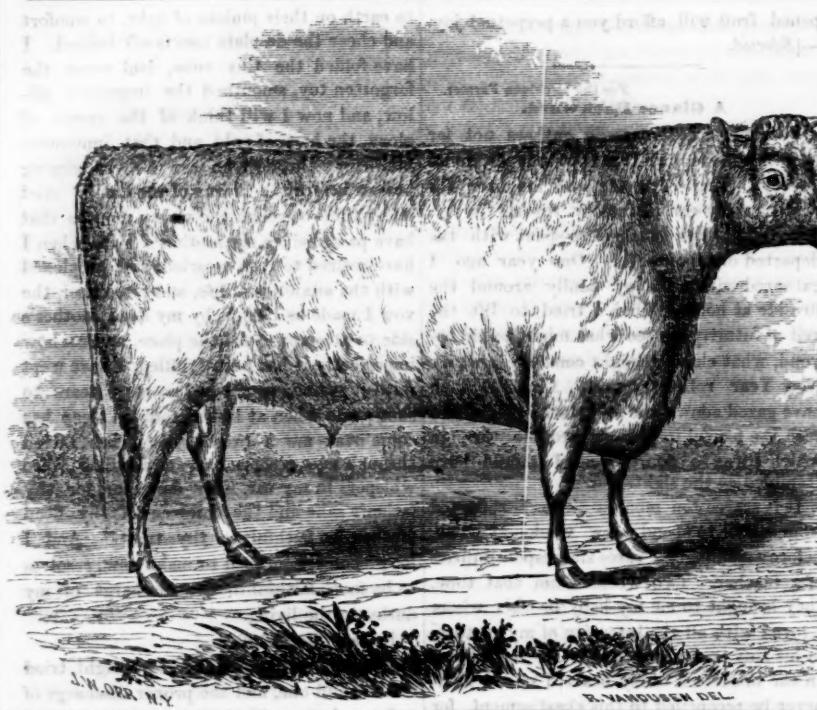
E. A. P.

Hudson, Jan., 1862.

[Struggle to temper the heart aright, tried and faithful one, and the proper discharge of arduous duties will yield more true pleasure than giddy pursuits.—ED. MICHIGAN FARMER.]

LET DIFFICULTIES NERVE YOU.—The differences of character are never more distinctly seen than in times when men are surrounded by difficulties and misfortunes.—there are some, who, when disappointed by the failure of an undertaking from which they had expected great things, make up their minds at once to exert themselves no longer against what they call fate, as if thereby they could avenge themselves upon fate; others grow desponding and hopeless; but a third class of men will rouse themselves just at such moments, and say to themselves, 'the more difficult it is to attain my ends, the more honorable it will be,' and this is a maxim which every one should impress upon himself as a law. Some of those who are guided by it, prosecute their plans with obstinacy, and so perish; others, who are more practical men, if they have failed in one way will try another.

SCOLDING.—If laughing begets fat, it is no less true that scolding is the parent of meanness. Who ever saw a plump termagant? The virago is scraggy—scragginess the badge of all her tribe. It would seem that the attraction of a fierce exacting temper gives sharpness to the human frame as inevitably as a gritty grindstone puts a wiry edge on a broadax. Artists understand this fact, and guide their pencils accordingly. They invariably represent ladies supposed to be given to "the rampage" as remarkably high in bone.—Shrews are thus depicted in comic valentines, and all the illustrations of "Curtain lectures" have presented the "rib" of Mr. Caudle without a particle of fat. Lavater referring to female firebrands, says flatly to their faces that their noses are sharp.—We have a dim idea that he mentions some exceptional cases of ladies with snub noses, who are given to snubbing their husbands; but those form a mild variety, and only a small proportion of the genus scold.—[Selected.]


Michigan Stock Register.—Shorthorns.

PREPARED BY R. F. JOHNSTONE,
Secretary of the Michigan State Agricultural Society.
[The letter *e* after any number signifies a reference to the English Herdbook. All other numbers, unless otherwise specified, refer to the American Shorthorn Herdbook.]

No. 150.—RED JACKET.—Color, red and white. Calved, Sept. 1st, 1850. Bred by Henry Turner, of Avon, Livingston County, New York, and now owned by R. G. Hart, of Lapeer, Michigan. Sire, Duke of Marlborough, by Blitsoe, imported 2548, and out of Wadsworth's premium cow, Beauty, by Paragon of the West. Dam, Young Pride, No. 60, Michigan Stock Register, p. 149. MICHIGAN FARMER for 1858, by Blitsoe, 2548. 1 g. dam, Pride of the Valley, by Old Splendor, 767. 2 g. dam, Pride of the Nation, by imported Rocket. 3 g. dam, a cow bred by Mr. Tyler, of the Nation Farms, from Gen. Wadsworth's imported Stock.

Wintering Lambs.

EDITOR MICHIGAN FARMER: As you often urge farmers to give their experience in the various departments of their vocation, I will add a little to the Sheep question, with your permission.

First, my experience with wintering lambs, especially late or weak ones, has resulted most satisfactorily in separating them from the flock in early winter, shutting them up in a shed, and keeping them up all winter, without letting them out at all till grass starts, giving water once a day with plenty of good hay in a rick along the side, so as to be filled from the outside, and one-half pint oats and corn per day.

I have had all lambs treated in this manner come out all right in the spring. I have also found in the mixed farming which I have practiced that sheep have given the largest net profits of any part of my stock.

W. M. R. CLARK.

Ganges, Jan. 9th, 1862.

“WORKING COWS.”—We see our article on this subject is going the rounds without

credit. The Allegan Record and Branch Co. Gazette, among others will please take notice.

A Talk About Sheep.

EDITOR FARMER: Dear Sir, I was glad to see that piece written by “J. H. S.” in the last number of the FARMER, on “Liver Complaint in Sheep.” It is the first I have ever seen on that subject. I have lost a great many sheep in former years by the same disease, and know a number of farmers in this vicinity that have lost a good many by it. I think the cause is bad management (or bad keeping in fall and winter).

When I kept a small flock and let them run at random, and stay in the fields as long as they could get grass to sustain life, and then shut them up in some convenient lot to feed without dry sheds or water, I never failed to lose my increase, and sometimes more. I came to the conclusion the cause of the disease is exposure to cold storms in fall and winter, and want of sufficient water in frozen weather, and drinking too much when a thaw comes.

I used sulphur and resin, equal parts, and saltpetre half as much, (or one-half pound of saltpetre to one pound each of sulphur and resin,) well pulverized and mixed with two-thirds salt, and gave each sheep about one teaspoonfull every other day. This or something else cured my sheep, and good warm dry sheds in winter with plenty of water every day I think has kept them so, for I have lost none for the last three years. I consider water in winter as necessary for sheep as for cattle and horses.

W. J. C.

Flint, Jan. 7, 1862.

Another Remedy for Sheep that Pull their Wool.

ED. FARMER:—Four years ago my sheep

Sunrise.
(4411 of the American Herdbook, vol. V, p. 173.)
BRED BY A. S. BROOKS, OF WEST NOV. OAKLAND
COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

This young bull is white and was sired by GOVERNOR, a bull imported by David Brooks, of Avon, Livingston County, New York, and his dam is CAMILLA, a cow imported. She was sired by Fusileer 11499 of English Herdbook. g dam Young Sall Gwynne by St. Thomas 10777 e; g g dam Sal Gwynne, by the Prime Minister, 2546 e Camilla was selected from the celebrated herd of Mr. J. Tangueray, and this young bull shows that the quality of the Gwynne tribe of Shorthorns is justly favored by the English breeders.

(See Engraving.)

Raise Good Stock.

Farmers are opening their eyes to the fact that it costs no more to keep good stock in good condition than it does an inferior grade; and the profits of raising good stock are as much more gratifying to the pocket of the thrifty farmer as their appearance is to his eye.

began to pull wool from their sides, at the same time losing flesh, and others would die when in good flesh. I commenced giving them six parts of wood ashes sifted, eight of salt, three of sulphur and one of resin, well mixed, twice a week, and in ten days there was a vast difference in the appearance of the sheep. They did well the remaining part of the Winter. I gave that composition to sixty sheep.

A. W. CALKINS.

Perry, Mich.

A Reasonable Request!

The following paragraph we clip from the Charlotte *Argus*:

“MR. ARGUS:—Would it not be an act of benevolence for those citizens of Charlotte who depend on *we bovines* stealing our living from sleighs, sleds, wagons and carts that come to town, to give us a lunch on *Sundays* instead of allowing us to go moaning and bellowing through the streets for something to eat and can't find *nothing*? We can do very well on week days, but oh! on Sundays!

“GRIZZLE, with nubs on.”

We trust that the hearts of Charlotte cow-owners will be moved by this pathetic appeal, and that hereafter the meek cow will be granted a weekly feast upon something at least as good as a generous slice of frozen pumpkin. If not “bread upon the waters,” it may prove *pumpkin on the lack-tail flood*, especially if the cow is *cur-tailed*.

BLOODED STOCK.—HON. HENRY PENNOYER, of Crockery, has recently purchased a Short Horn Durham Bull-calf, of the true improved stock. We are glad to hear that such stock is being introduced to this part of the country, and we mention the fact to excite emulation among our neighbors. Grand Haven contains many good cows, but no care has been taken, that we have heard, to improve the stock raised in this vicinity.—*Grand Haven Clarion*.

For the Michigan Farmer.
Regulations of the Plymouth Farmers' and Mechanics' Club.

TALE ABOUT MANURES.

1st. This Association shall be called the Plymouth Farmers' and Mechanics' Club, and shall hold its sessions periodically, as shall be determined, from time to time, by the action of the Society.

2nd. The object of this Association shall be, to promote a more full development and appreciation of the theory and practice of Agriculture, Horticulture, and their kindred arts, by bringing about a more full interchange of opinion, based upon experience, among those interested in these subjects.

3d. In order the more effectually to promote these objects, it shall be the privilege of members to speak, either standing or sitting, and to address, either the chair, or any other person present, by name or otherwise, always upon the subject under consideration, and with all due courtesy.

4th. In all cases not expressly specified, the deliberations shall be governed by the rules that usually apply to deliberative bodies.

5th. Any person may become a member of this Association, for one year, by subscribing to its regulations, and paying to the Treasurer the sum of twenty-five cents.

6th. The officers of this Society shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer; whose duties shall be as indicated by their offices; and who shall constitute board for the transaction of such business as may become necessary while the society is not in session. They shall hold their offices for one year, and until the election of their successors.

These regulations were adopted at the organization of the society, Dec. 10th, 1859, and have since undergone no change, except to provide for the choice of an additional vice-president, and a corresponding secretary.

The discussions of the society, for the present Winter, have opened with an unusual degree of interest, which, so far, has been well sustained.

The discussions of the last two meetings have been devoted to the manufacture and application of manures; the necessity of protecting it from the washing of rains was carefully considered. Those who had practiced keeping it under shelter, expressed abundant satisfaction with the results of their practice.

Mr. John Allen had provided a cellar under his barn, into which the droppings of his stables were thrown; and he had largely increased the amount and also the quality of his manure heap, by introducing large quantities of swamp muck, as an absorbent and de-odorizer. He has prevented excessive heating, and insured a thorough mixing and decomposition of the mass, by scattering a little corn, and turning in his hogs.

The President, and some others, expressed a preference for the practice of piling their manure in heaps, in the open ground, under the apprehension that the influence of the sun and rain would hasten its decomposition.

Others acknowledged that they practiced the leaving their manure scattered about their yards, until ready to cart it on to the land, although several acknowledged their belief that this was a method of wast-

ing, rather than saving manure. Others, again, expressed the opinion that there is less waste by this process than is commonly supposed.

It was urged that, in the decomposition of manures, large quantities of valuable gases are given off; and the importance of employing plaster, muck, loam, clay, or some other de-odorizer, as a means of fixing and retaining it, was strongly urged.

The discussion upon the application of manures also took a wide range, and showed an unexpected leaning to the practice of top-dressing. Many, indeed, urged the propriety of the surface application of all manures, whether raw or composted. Very little objection was made to the use, in this way, of dry manures, such as straw or other litter, but it was urged that raw, animal manures must, by this process, lose a large proportion of their gaseous constituents, before they could be appropriated by the growing vegetation, and that, consequently, they would act chiefly as a mulch.

On the other hand it was argued that, on heavy soils, raw manures would act more profitably if plowed in; and that, when used as a top-dressing, they should invariably be composted before applying. There was, however, an almost universal acknowledgement of the great value of a light application of straw, or other litter, in autumn, upon grass or winter grains.

T. T. LYON,
Cor. Secretary.

Plymouth, Jan. 20th, 1862.

How About the Tools?

"A penny saved is worth two pence earned," is an old saying that has a good share of truth in it, and at this season of the year, when there is not an opportunity for farmers to earn much, it is well to pay special attention to saving—not by cultivating a penurious or miserly trait, but by taking good care of—1st, the health and comfort of the family; 2nd, ditto of stock; and 3d, a careful preservation of all farming tools. Don't let the gnawing and destroying *rot* and *rust* use up your tools faster than your farm work would do it. See that they are "high and dry."

It is not uncommon to see reapers, plows, shovels, cultivators, harrows, seeding machines etc. all piled together under an open shed, and the whole occupied as a hen roost, the droppings entirely covering some parts of the implements. We remember an instance where we found hen-manure full three inches deep on a reaper apron, and when the reaper was put there, it was but little worn, and well worthy of good care. It is needless to add that the owner of that reaper was always complaining of hard times!

A little pains taken, at times when but little else can be done, to overhaul, clean up and oil implements that are not in use, may often save double the amount that could be earned in the same space of time.

•••
We send this week's FARMER only to those who have paid for it, (except in a

few instances of special arrangement.) The two previous numbers were sent to our former list so that all might see just what course we had determined upon, in view of the uncommon condition of public affairs.—Having fixed upon our course, our motto is, FORWARD!

A Frost in May for Every Fog in January.

A correspondent of the Country Gentleman says a successful gardener once told him that for every fog in January there would be a frost in May, and he planted accordingly. That year at least it proved true. It will do no harm to bear this in mind. How many fogs have we had this year?

Take the Hint.

Those who have apples to sell and are liable to put them up in an inferior manner should read Messrs CROSBY & Co.'s remarks under the market report. Those who buy produce in quantities buy to sell again, and hence will not pay the best prices except for that which is well packed, as well as of good quality.

One great fault of our farmers is this carelessness and untidiness in preparing their produce for market. Let it be mended forthwith.

RARE CHANCE.—Our good friend B. PECKHAM of Albion offers a bushel of Davis' seedling Potatoes together with the FARMER for one dollar.—He says the Mass. Horticultural Society, and also the Editors of the Rural New Yorker, pronounce it the most productive good potato grown. Here is a chance for those who can call on Mr. PECKHAM to get a bushel and try them.

For the Michigan Farmer.
Firewood.

Farmers, now is the time to chop and haul your firewood for next Summer. Chop it sled length and get it up while the snow is on; then chop it into stove wood and cord it up for summer's use.

A man can chop twice the amount of wood in a winter's day that he could in the heat of summer; besides, how provoking it is to add wood-chopping to the daily chores during the busy summer months, when every hour of time is of so much importance to the farmer, and then what a consolation is it to be sure of having your meals well cooked and ready at the proper hour, and the women all so good natured in consequence of having plenty of good dry wood on hand.

Farmers, you that have not been in the habit of chopping your summer's stove wood during the winter, try it for once, and see if it don't pay.

D. D. TOOKER.

The American Pomological Society will commence its ninth annual session at Boston on the 17th of next September.

PEACHES IN MINNESOTA.—The Minnesota Farmer and Gardener says:—The peaches grown about St. Paul are all protected in the winter by training the branches near the ground and covering them in the fall.

A Grand Organizing Scheme.

We have received two communications from Mr. E. WEEKS, of Napoleon, each accompanied with private notes urging us to publish them. They call upon the farmers to organize into township societies, and offer the services of Mr. W. to call conventions and help organize societies, "for I am the People's Servant." He will promptly correspond on the subject, send bills for noticing meetings, "and if required, will attend in person and give an address—for a small compensation.—Such may be contributed."

We are favorable to thorough organization—would be happy to see the evidences of the existence of a flourishing society in each and every township in the state; but the first step in the right direction, it seems to us, is *not* to raise a great hurrah, form spasmodic combinations, cast overboard those already in existence, and work up a general perspiration which will result in a prostrating cold. And here is the great fault with Mr. W.'s plan. Doubtless he is zealous in his wishes for the welfare of his class; but we fear he is a little too fast. He is for getting up a furious popular storm and accomplishing everything with one grand effort.—Let him watch the growth of his crops, and learn a lesson. Let him reflect that those which grow fastest, soonest decay. He would not use a hot-bed celery-stalk for a whiffle-tree.

If he is desirous of really benefitting the farmers, (which we do not doubt,) let him, and all others of similar mind, first use the implements at hand for a foundation. Let him *take root* in the business, and then make a steady and sturdy growth. How? He doubtless lives in a county! that county doubtless has an agricultural society. Let the evidence of his zeal and ability first show itself *right there*. Does it? Has he infused life and vigor into, and perfected, that?

Perhaps he has done all this. Perhaps he has organized all the towns around him, and is ready to extend his efforts to distant regions; but we doubt it. If we are mistaken we hope some one in the vicinity of Napoleon will set us right, and as soon as it can be made to appear that Mr. WEEKS has tilled his own field well—organized and benefitted his own county in the way he proposes to organize and benefit the whole state, we will do all in our power to aid him in the good work. Can he justly ask more?

We would be pleased to see evidence of a determination on his part even to help sustain the press that was instituted to promote the farmer's interests, and is struggling for a bare existence, and which he now seeks to use as a medium of communicating his grand scheme to the farmers of this state; but we search our mail books in vain for even that evidence of a determination to *act* as well as *talk*. Still, it *may* be made to appear that this is of no real consequence; and we are open to conviction, on this as well as other points. We await further developments, assuring Mr. W. that a testimonial of

his important services in the line proposed, from a goodly number of the leading farmers of Jackson or any other county, will have an immense influence in his favor.

Farmer's Organizations.

These are far less beneficial to farmers than they might and should be, for the simple reason that as a class farmers do not attend to them. Look at those existing: As a generality they are so little cared for by the farmers that their management is yielded up to ambitious village or city schemers, who use them for the benefit of themselves and a few particular friends.

Now the entire blame for all this rests with the farmers themselves. Suppose a political organization should thus be abandoned by its own party, who would be so foolish as to expect any important result from it? If the farmers of this State want to take a prominent position in the world as a class they must wake up to their own interests. They must hold the reins of their county societies—join *en masse*, attend the business meetings and see to it that intelligent *farmers*, instead of scheming citizens, fill the offices and shape the management.—They must elect delegates to the business meetings of the State Society, these to be charged with seeing to it that competent farmers fill its offices, and thus in every particular *manage their own affairs*.

When we see this done we shall take courage.

Politicians go through rain or shine, thick or thin, to *take hold of and manage* their organizations, and thus make them great auxiliaries to the accomplishment of their purposes. But how is it when notice is given for a business meeting of a county agricultural society? Do the farmers turn out in numbers and do up the business in an independent and thorough manner? Rarely have we been gratified at the sight of a dozen real farmers at such a meeting.

Now, farmers of Michigan, how long will you thus be led around and plundered by designing men? You need not blame them.—Yourselves are to blame for permitting it. If I let a robber take the reins of my horse and drive him into the wilderness where he can rob me at his pleasure, whose fault is it? Am I not to be blamed when I might have kept the reins? Keep the reins of your societies and manage them, so that they will be worthy of the confidence and patronage, and will protect the interests, of your own class.

Inquiry.

I have a pair of three year old steers whose horns turn in too much to look well. By what process can I turn them out?

A. W. CALKINS.

We have been told that scraping the outer side with a piece of glass would have a tendency to straighten horns, but cannot vouch for the truth of it. Has any of our readers a remedy to communicate?

GOLD FOR JEWELRY.—Pure gold is not used for jewelry, but is usually alloyed by introducing a small quantity of silver or copper. Silver renders it lighter in color, and copper gives it a deeper shade, inclining to a reddish hue. The jeweler of the present day relies in a great measure on dies for the forms he gives the articles that come from his hand. These he has cut in steel with care, and many of them are beautiful, and often very intricate. The gold is rolled out into strips, and what is beheld is all that it professes to be—pure gold; but the proportion of the metal to the whole is very small. A strip of gold, not thicker than a silver dollar, is secured to a bar of brass of corresponding size, but much thicker in proportion. A flux is applied to unite the two, and the mass is subjected to the action of the fire.—At the proper moment it is withdrawn, and when cool the two metals are found firmly united. The bar is then rolled out between steel rollers till the metal, in the form of a long ribbon, is not thicker than letter paper. It is then cut into small pieces of the size required, and the artisan so places them in succession that the die falls upon each in turn, giving it the required form.—[*Scientific American*].

HIVING SWARMS.—I have found it very advantageous, when hiving natural swarms, to sprinkle the cluster well with sugar-water, four or five minutes before shaking down. I invariably do this when the cluster is accessible, or can be reached by means of a ladder. I pour the sugar-water into a tin basin, and use a common wisp or hand-brush for a sprinkler. This unexpected shower of sweets is an acceptable treat to the bees, mollifying their temper, and rendering them exceedingly tractable during the subsequent operations. If sufficient time is allowed after the sprinkling, for them to gorge themselves, few will be disposed to fly or sting.

Sprinkling with sugar-water may also be resorted to when the swarm issues before the bee-keeper has a hive in readiness for it. This will keep the swarm from rising or decamping; and by repeating it at intervals, time may be gained to make the necessary arrangements for its accommodation.—[*American Bee Journal*].

COST OF BEAUTY.—There are persons who think that a home cannot be beautiful without a considerable outlay of money. Such people are in error. It costs little to have a neat little flower-garden, and to surround your dwelling with those simple beauties which delight the eye far more than expensive objects. Nature delights in beauty. She loves to brighten the landscape and make it agreeable to the eye. She hangs ivy around the ruin, and over a stump of the withered tree twines the graceful vine. A thousand arts she practices to animate the sense and please the mind. Follow her example, and do for yourself what she is always laboring to do for you.—[*The Gardener's Monthly*].

CURE FOR EARACHE.—An exchange paper recommends the following as a certain cure for the earache: Take a small piece of cotton batting, or cotton wool, make a depression in the centre with the end of the finger, and fill it with as much ground pepper as will rest on a five cent piece, gather it into a ball and tie it up; dip the ball into sweet oil and insert it into the ear, covering the latter with cotton wool, and use a bandage or cap to retain it in its place. Almost instant relief will be experienced, and the application is so gentle that an infant will not be injured by it, but experience relief as well as adults.

Incidents and Anecdotes.

A Remarkable Incident.

The following strange case is related by the army correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press*:

"Some time ago a private of the 19th Indiana Regiment was tried by a court-martial for deserting his post, and found guilty, the punishment for which is death. His execution was deferred for some time, and he was kept in a painful state of suspense. At last the time was fixed for his execution, and five regiments were drawn up in line to witness it, while a file of twelve men were in advance to execute the sentence of death by shooting.

"The prisoner was led forward blindfolded, and the usual word for preparation and command were given in a low, measured tone by the officer in command. During the interval between the commands, 'Take aim' and 'fire,' and before the last was given, a horseman rode rapidly up the road, waving in the air a paper, which was understood by all present to be a reprieve. Covered with dust and perspiration, the officer rode hurriedly up to the officer in command and delivered to him what really proved to be a reprieve. The shout 'reprieve' fell upon the poor soldier's ear, which was already strained to the utmost in anticipation of hearing the last and final word that was to usher his soul into the presence of his Creator; it was too much for him, and he fell upon his coffin, apparently dead. The bandage was removed from his eyes, but reason had taken flight, and he became a hopeless maniac. He was discharged from the army and sent home to his friends. His death had really never been intended, but it was deemed necessary for the good order and discipline of the army to make an impression not only upon himself but the whole brigade; for that purpose, the forms of the execution were regularly gone through with, in presence of five regiments, and the reprieve arrived in good time, as it was intended. It was sought by this means to solemnly impress upon the whole assemblage of soldiers, the necessity of a strict observance of duty and obedience, under the penalty of an ignominious death. It was a fearful ordeal for the deserter, but it was certainly better than to have completed the tragedy by sending his soul to, 'the bourne from whence no traveler returns.'"

Incident on Board the Trent.

An officer of the Trent, believed to be Mr. O. P. Savage, of Belfast, Ireland, communicates to the *Newsletter* the following incident, which happened at the time of Lieutenant Fairfax's visit:

While all the confusion and excitement was at its full height, I was struck by a thick-set elderly gentleman, sitting on a rail of an arm chair, attentively listening to all that was going forward on the quarter deck, but never altering his position: coolly puffing his cigar, he seemed perfectly indifferent to everything and everybody around him. He went to the companion once, and (unseen as he thought) quietly loosened a cutlass. That, sir, was a man who, in a practical way, has done the Northern cause more harm than any one else.

Had they only known who they left behind they would have bitten their nails with vexation, I firmly believe they would have dispensed with the presence of at least two of the delegates to have known that man was on board. I did not know at the time who he was, but I have since learned. [Supposed to be the Captain of the Sumter or Jeff. Davis.] Upon questioning him as to his motive

for touching the cutlass, his answer was that his intention was to cut down the lieutenant had he been recognized. He looked a determined man, and the North knows it. He was not the only one left behind; several others would have been, I believe, equally acceptable at Washington—one or two of whom took to their beds.

Curious Instinct of the Hog.

A gentleman whilst traveling some years ago through the wilds of Vermont, perceived at a little distance a herd of swine, and his attention was arrested by the agitation they exhibited. He quickly perceived a number of hogs in the centre of the herd, and that the hogs were arranged about them in conical form, having their heads all turned outwards. At the apex of this singular cone a huge boar had placed himself, who from his size seemed to be master of the herd. The traveler now observed that a famished wolf was attempting by various manœuvres to seize on the pigs in the middle, but, wherever he made an attack, the huge boar at the apex of the cone presented himself—the hogs dexterously arranging themselves on each side of him, so as to preserve the position of defence just mentioned. The attention of the traveler was for a moment withdrawn, and upon turning to view the combatants, he was surprised to find the herd of swine dispersed, and the wolf no longer to be seen. On riding up to the spot, the wolf was discovered dead on the ground, a rent being made in his side over a foot in length—the boar, no doubt, having seized a favorable opportunity, and with a sudden plunge dispatched his adversary with his formidable tusks. It is little remarkable that the ancient Romans, among the various methods they devised for drawing up their armies in battle, had one exactly resembling the posture assumed by the swine above mentioned. The mode of attack was called *Cuueus*, or *Caput porcinum*.—*Silliman's Journal*.

A BOY OUTWITS "SECESH."—The following sharp practice of a boy ten years old, son of Mrs. Horine, occurred last week in Barre county, Mo.: The lad and his mother were riding a colt on the open prairie, when they were met by a squad of secesh from Granby, who ordered them to dismount. The leader placed his own saddle on the colt, mounted the latter, and was thrown off quicker than thought. Boy exclaimed, "Gentlemen, there is a curl on that colt's neck by which you can always know him." They desired the boy to point out the mark, when the little fellow stepping up to his favorite animal, grasped the mane with one hand, and with the other slipped off the bridle. Colt, as if understanding the joke, "skedaddled" over the plain, leaving the captors perfectly astounded at being thus so easily outwitted.

"Will you take this woman to be your wedded wife?" said an Illinois magistrate to the masculine of a couple who stood up before him.

"Wall, squire," was the reply, "you must be a green 'un, to ask me such a question as that ar. Do you think I'd be such a plaguy fool as to go to the bar hunt, and take this gal from the quilten' frolic, if I was not conscriptiously certain and determined to have her? Drive on with your biziness."

SINGULAR COINCIDENCE.—A letter from Port Royal relates the following curious incident. The 1st Connecticut three months regiment, which participated in the battle of Bull Run, were furnished with canteens

of peculiar construction and shape, unlike those of any other regiment. A great many of them were thrown away and left on the field. Sergeant Savage, a member of that regiment, now of Co. A, 7th Connecticut regiment on duty at Beaufort on Sunday, Nov. 10th, picked up there the identical canteen he lost at Bull Run, unmistakably identified, not only by its singular shape, but also by his own name, which was scratched upon it.

SLIGHTLY PERSONAL.—The Indianapolis *Journal* of Saturday publishes the following. Some persons might consider it personal:

"A Card.—The gentleman boarding in the Bates House who has long black hair, and speaks with a slightly foreign accent, who discards the use of knife, fork and spoon in eating, and who uses his finger like a Hotentot, wiping the grease and filth on his hair, can ascertain, by inquiry at the *Journal* office, the names of gentlemen who will pay his bills at a restaurant that they may be relieved of his nauseating presence.

"ONE TABLE OF BOARDERS."

A Farmer, living on the line of the Troy and Boston Railroad, stopped a passenger train on Thursday last, by waving his hat. "What's the matter?" screamed the engineer. "Matter!" said the farmer, "nothin' as I know of." "Then what did you swing your cap for?" said the engineer, "O Lord!" said the farmer, "why, I was fanning myself!"

INFLUENCE OF EXTREME COLD UPON SEEDS.—Some experiments have been made this year by Prof. Eli Waterman, of Geneva, Switzerland, on the influence of extreme cold upon the seeds of plants. Nine varieties of seeds, some of them tropical, were selected. They were placed in hermetically sealed tubes, and submitted to cold as severe as science can produce. Some remained fifteen days in a mixture of snow and salt; some were plunged in a bath of liquid sulphuric acid, rendered extremely cold by artificial means. On the 5th of April they were all sown in pots placed in the open air. They all germinated, and those which had undergone the rigors of frigidity, produced plants as robust as those which had not been submitted to the test.

A new religious Denomination was a few days since organized in New York City, by delegates, lay and clerical, representing various Independent Methodist churches in different parts of the country. Two young men were ordained to the Christian ministry, and arrangements made for starting a periodical to be called the *Methodist Independent*, to be edited by Professor Mattison of New York.

The peculiarities of this sect are that, while they adhere to Methodist doctrine and modes of worship, they have no "bishops" or "presiding elders;" the churches are independent of the conference; own their own church property; choose their own pastors, and retain them as long as they please; and conference composed of ministers and lay delegates, has no legislative, executive or judicial authority over the local churches beyond that of mere advice and recommendation. The Articles of Faith of the Methodist Episcopal Church were adopted by the conference, and recommended to the local churches as a doctrinal platform, and a carefully prepared plan of union or constitution was adopted and subscribed by all the delegates present.

For the Michigan Farmer.
A Sister to her Brother in the Army.

Dear brother! In the tented field,
 A thousand miles away,
 My mind, with many an anxious thought,
 Recalls you night and day.

I'm carried back to other scenes,
 Which long ago have fled,
 I turn to childhood's sorrowing days,
 And to the sainted dead.

A mother on a bed of pain
 Her wasting life resigned;
 But for her feeble children four
 Left many a prayer behind.

How dark the world was then to me,
 When her mild sun was set;
 Three children claimed maternal care,
 Myself a child as yet.

Still God was good and kind to us;
 (My lips shall breathe his praise;) He shed a light upon our home
 Through those dark wintry days.

Nor did I leave that cherished spot
 A husband's lot to share,
 Till you had passed the tender years,
 Which need a mother's care.

And now one brother tills the soil
 On rich Ohio's plains,
 Our sister, in the Keystone state,
 Her youthful scholars train.

While you, the feeblest of the four,
 To vigorous strength have grown,
 And wield the sword with stalwart arm,
 Your Country's cause to own.

Our mother's prayers are thus fulfilled
 Regarding things on earth;
 A precious pledge that she was heard
 In things of greater worth.

Oh brother! can you e'er forget
 That Sabbath morning clear;
 The past remembrance now is sweet,
 But then how dark and drear.

We stood alone around her bed;
 Her last advice we heard;
 A mother's blessing was expressed,
 In many a burning word.

And as she charged us to preserve
 Unchanged our mutual love,
 She laid a bond upon our soul
 We never would remove.

All three have sought my distant home
 And made its chambers bright,
 But you came first and were the last
 To bear away your light.

I've laid my children down to sleep,
 Tucked warm and close in bed,
 But weep to think these storms may drive
 Upon my brother's head.

Dear brother! in the field of strife,
 Your honor bright maintain;
 That cruelty, or cowardice,
 Your arms may never stain.

And oh! may grace preserve your soul
 From all temptations round;
 And lead you to peruse the book,
 Where saving truth is found.

That so, if mercy spare your life,
 An I bring you back again
 My joy to meet you in the face
 May be unmixed with pain.

Or should it be ordained that there
 Your earthly course should cease,
 Although your body writhes in pain,
 The soul may go in peace.

Walled Lake Jan. 9th, 1862.

For the Michigan Farmer.
"Blackberries?"

"Blackberries?" It was a pale, timid little face that looked out from the white sunbonnet.

"Your black hand is on my dress, child—get away!" and the rustling silk swept on. So would not the child's darling mother have spoken to the poor when she was rich and happy.

"Won't you *please* buy my blackberries?" said she, addressing a business-looking man who was passing; "mother's sick—
 "What do I want of those messy things?" he replied contemptuously, as he strode away.

One effort more. A broad-clothed mustached personage approached. "Blackberries, sir!" said she respectfully.

"What a nuisance these street beggars are!" he muttered, as he passed along.

"I arn't a nuisance! I'm a good little girl,—mother says so! I'm just trying to sell my berries so I can buy her some sugar and some tea! Poor sick mother! O, dear!—who *will* buy them?" she added, leaning against a lamp-post. But this won't do! Mother used to sing

"'Tis a lesson you should heed,

Try, try again."

but mother don't sing any more—not any more!"

"What is that, darling?" said a lady, pausing at her side. "Darling!" no one but her mother had called her so for many a day; she looked up and smiled.

"What was that you said?"

"I was saying that mother does n't sing now."

"Why does she not sing, child?"

"O she's sick, and—I can't tell you why she don't sing!"

"Why not, darling?"

"O, she told me never to mention it to a stranger,—you're a stranger, arn't you? But what makes you call me darling? Do you love me?"

The lady bent her to the little eager face and kissed the child of poverty. "What is your name, little one?"

"Mother calls me 'Blessed Sunbeam,' but my name is Nelly."

"Those are sweet names," said the lady; "would you like an orange, Nelly?" she added, turning to a market woman's stand near by.

"Mother would!" replied the child, "she's sick of fever; but I can't sell my blackberries and I can't buy her anything! O, dear, I wish I could! won't you buy them, good lady?"

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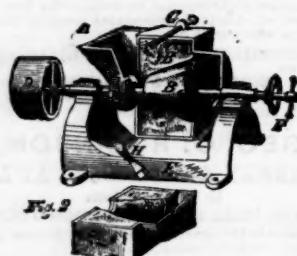
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GOOD FOR CONSUMPTIVES.

GENTLEMEN CARRY

SPALDING'S THROAT CONFECTIONS

LADIES ARE DELIGHTED WITH

SPALDING'S THROAT CONFECTIONS

CHILDREN CRY FOR

SPALDING'S THROAT CONFECTIONS

They relieve a Cough instantly.

They clear the Throat.

They give strength and volume to the voice.

They impart a delicious aroma to the breath.

They are delightful to the taste.

They are made of simple herbs and cannot harm any one.

I advise every one who has a Cough or a Husky Voice or a Bad Breath, or any difficulty of the throat, to get a package of my Throat Confections, they will relieve you instantly, and you will agree with me that "they go right to the spot." You will find them very useful and pleasant while traveling or attending public meetings for stilling your Cough or allaying your thirst. If you try one package I am safe in saying that you will ever afterwards consider them indispensable. You will find them at the Druggists and Dealers in Medicines.

PRICE TWENTY-FIVE CENTS.

My signature is on each package. All others are counterfeit.

A package will be sent by mail, prepaid, on receipt of Thirty cents.

Address,

HENRY C. SPALDING,
No. 4. CEDAR STREET, NEW YORK.

Cephalic Pills
CURE
Sick Headache
CURE
Nervous Headache
CURE
All kinds of
Headache

By the use of these Pills the periodic attacks of *Nervous* or *Sick Headache* may be prevented; and if taken at the commencement of an attack immediate relief from pain and sickness will be obtained.

They seldom fail in removing the *Nausea* and *Headache* to which females are so subject.

They act gently upon the bowels—removing *Costiveness*.

For *Literary Men*, *Students*, *Delicate Females*, and all persons of *sedentary habits*, they are valuable as a *Laxative*, improving the *appetite*, giving *tone* and *vigor* to the digestive organs, and restoring the natural elasticity and strength of the whole system.

The CEPHALIC PILLS are the result of long investigation and carefully conducted experiments, having been in use many years, during which time they have prevented and relieved a vast amount of pain and suffering from Headache, whether originating in the *nervous* system or from a deranged state of the *stomach*.

They are entirely vegetable in their composition, and may be taken at all times with perfect safety without making any change of diet, and the absence of any disagreeable taste renders it easy to administer them to children.

BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS!

The genuine have five signatures of Henry C. Spalding on each box.

Sold by Druggists and all other Dealers in Medicines. A Box will be sent by mail prepaid on receipt of the

PRICE 25 CENTS.

All orders should be addressed to

HENRY C. SPALDING,
46-1 Cedar Street, New York.

A single bottle of SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE will save ten times its cost annually.

SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE.

SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE.

SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE.

SAVE THE PIECES!

DISPATCH!

"A STITCH IN TIME SAVES NINE."

As accidents will happen, even in well regulated families, it is very desirable to have some cheap and convenient way for repairing Furniture, Toys, Crockery, &c.

SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE meets all such emergencies, and no household can afford to be without it. It is always ready, and up to the sticking point.

"USEFUL IN EVERY HOUSE."

N. B.—A brush accompanies each bottle. Price, 25 cents.

Address,

HENRY C. SPALDING,

No. 46 Cedar Street, New York.

CAUTION.

As certain unprincipled persons are attempting to palm off on the unsuspecting public, imitations of my PREPARED GLUE, I would caution all persons to examine before purchasing, and see that the full name

SPALDING'S PREPARED GLUE

on the outside wrapper; as others are swindling counterfeiters

DRAIN TILE!

WE KEEP CONSTANTLY ON HAND THE different kinds of Drain Tile, at PENFIELD'S, 108 Woodward avenue.

THE PEOPLE'S MILL.

FOR SALE at PENFIELD'S AG'LE WAREHOUSE at manufacturer's prices, freight added; and can be seen running in this city, Detroit, Mich.

Commercial Department.

DETROIT MARKET PRICES,

Carefully corrected just before going to press, by
C. L. CROSBY & CO.,

Commission Merchants, and dealers in Fruits, and Western Produce Generally. No 5, Russell House Block, Detroit, Mich.

White Wheat	1 bush.	advanced to	\$ 1.00@1.06
Red Wheat	do	declined to	0.92@0.93
Corn, Shelled, do		declined to	0.88@0.90
do in the ear, do		declined to	0.30@0.30
Oats, do		unchanged	0.00@0.24
Rye, do		unchanged	0.40@0.42
Barley, do		advanced to	0.25@0.26
Buckwheat Flour	1 cwt	declined to	1.12@0.90
Potatoes, Neshannock, 1 bush		unchanged	0.40@0.40
do common	do	unchanged	0.38@0.40
Apples, good winter	1 bbl	unchanged	1.75@2.00
do dried	1 bush.	unchanged	1.10@1.25
Beans, do		unchanged	1.00@1.00
Onions, do		unchanged	0.20@0.25
Butter, fresh roll, 1 lb		declined to	0.09@0.10
do firkin, do		unchanged	0.08@0.09
Eggs	1 doz.	declined to	0.08@0.10
Pork, best dressed, 1 cwt		advanced to	2.75@3.00
do common do	do	unchanged	0.00@2.50
do best lye	do	unchanged	2.00@2.50
do common do	do	unchanged	0.00@0.00
do do 1 bbl		unchanged	9.00@10.00
Beef, best dressed	1 cwt	unchanged	2.00@2.50
do best lye	do	declined to	1.50@1.75
do common do	do	unchanged	0.00@0.00
do	1 bbl	unchanged	6.00@7.00
Mutton, dressed	1 cwt	unchanged	2.50@3.00
do lye	do	declined to	2.50@2.75
Hides, green,	do	advanced to	4.00@4.50
do dry,	do	advanced to	9.00@10.00
do green calf	do	advanced to	7.00@9.00
do dry do	do	advanced to	16.00@18.00
Sheep Skins each		advanced to	1.50@1.75
Wool, fine grade	1 lb	advanced to	0.95@0.92
do coarse	do	unchanged	0.85@0.88
Chickens dressed do		unchanged	0.04@0.05
do live	1 pair	unchanged	0.25@0.30
Hay	1 ton	unchanged	8.00@10.00
Deer Skins	1 lb	unchanged	0.25@0.33

REMARKS.—The market has been supplied with most kinds of produce during the week, and considerable business has been done.

In Grain—There has not been so much doing.

Rye—Is dull of sale.

Barley—Is in active demand at advanced prices.

Green Apples—Are arriving mostly in bad order, which makes them unsaleable to shippers. Too much pains cannot be taken in packing and pressing them, to insure ready sale at outside quotations. Apples well put up will always sell at fair rates; but when barrels are shaky, and different kinds mixed in the same barrel they invariably sell slowly and at much reduced prices.

Beans—Are coming in more freely and the market is weaker with downward tendency.

Butter and Eggs—Are dull at our quotations, except for prime butter in round hoop firkins which is in fair demand for shipping.

Pork—For a few days past the supply of dressed hogs has not been quite up to the demand. But as the season for packing approaches its close some of our heaviest packers will soon wind up business for the season, and consequently there is little likelihood of an advance in price.

Beef and Mutton—Are in good supply and demand not so active at quotations.

Hides and Pelts—Are in active request at advanced rates.

C. L. CROSBY & CO.

New York Markets.

New York, Jan 23—7 P. M.

Flour—Market 3c better. The decline in freights and a further advance in sterling exchange has imparted a firmer tone; sales 1,700 barrels at \$45@55 for super State, \$570@580 for extra State, \$45@55 for super western, \$570@580 for common to medium extra western, \$590@595 for shipping brands round hoop Ohio, and \$610@675 for trade brands, market closing steady.

Canadian Flour—May be quoted a shade better, with a fair business doing; sales 850 bbls at \$55@55 for super, 550@675 for common to choice extra.

Rye Flour—Continues quiet and steady; sales at 350 @4.25.

Corn Meal—Quiet, and without any material change. Wheat—Fully 1c higher, and under a further decline in freights an advance in exchange there is a much better export demand; sales 16,200 bu Chicago spring at 1.29@1.33, the latest price for choice, 14,800 bu Milwaukee Club at 1.32@1.34, 26,000 bu Amber Iowa at 1.34, 1,500 burree State at 1.40, 4,000 red Jersey at 1.40, 2,500 bu Long Island on private terms, and 18,000 bu white Ohio at 1.44.

Rye—Is scarce and firm; sales 5,500 bu at \$6@54 in the ship.

Barley—Bulks scarce and firm at 20@30; sales 12,000 bu winter State at \$4.

Corn—Market opened steady, but better, under the same influence that operated upon wheat prices; at the close were fully 1c higher; sales 93,000 bu at 63@64 for mixed western in store, 63@66 afloat, closing at the latter price, and 50 for white southern.

Oats—In moderate request; sales at 40@42 for Jersey, Canadian, western and State.

Pork—Market continues quiet and firm, with a fair demand: sales 900 bbls at 11.75@12.50 for mes, including choice city at 12.62, 13.00 for prime mes, 13.25 for city do, and 8.00@9.50 for prime.

Beef—Rules quiet and steady, with sales of 150 bbls at 4.00@4.50 for country prime, 5.00@5.50 for country mes, 10.00@12.00 for repacked mes, and 18.75@14.87 for extra mes.

Prime Mess Beef—Quiet; India mess very firm; sales 200 tierces at 12.00@14.69.

Beef Hams—The market is quiet and steady at 14.25 @15.00.

Cut Meats—A little more active; sales 120 pkgs at 3.50@4.50 for shoulders, 3.50@4.00 for hams.

Bacon—Sides in less active demand, but without notable change; sales 100 boxes long clear at 7, and 100 boxes short do at 7.50.

Dressed Hogs—A shade easier; sales at 4@4.50 for western, and 4.50@5.00 for city.

Lard—Less active, but prices are without decided change; sales 1,805 tierces and bbls at 7.50@8.50, including a lot of choice steam-kettle rendered at 8.50@9.00 kegs at 9c.

Butter—Selling at 11@14 for Ohio, and 16@21 for State.

Cheese—Market dull, and prices continue steady at 5.50@7.

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 21.

The demand for first class brands city and country mess pork is good, with sales yesterday and to-day of over 2,000 barrels at \$9.50 for country and city. Most of the city packers are asking \$9.62@9.75 for inside brands. Lard is in good request for city at 6.50c, but it is generally held at 6.50c in barrels and tierces. Heavy bulk sides are held at 4.50@4.75c, with a fair demand at 4c. We quote green meats at 3.50c, 3.50@3.50c, and 3.50@3.50c for shoulders, hams, and sides. The demand for hogs is fair, fully equal to offerings, \$8.20@8.25 for light, \$8.30@8.35 for medium, and \$8.40 for heavy to extra heavy.

Chicago Market.

CHICAGO, Jan. 23—7 P. M.

Flour—Quiet.

Wheat—Closed dull at 72 for No. 1, and 67 for No. 2 in store.

Corn—in fair demand at 22c.

Oats—Quiet.

Mess Pork—Firm at 9.25 for city packed.

Dressed Hogs—Dull, and to lower; 2.50@2.70; live active and steady.

The Rev. J. C. Fletcher gave us last evening, a brilliant lecture on the religion, customs and people of Brazil. Seldom have we relished anything more than the picture he laid before his audience of that exuberant garden of the tropics laden with its strange variety of fruits and flowers, teeming with perpetual harvest to the hand of man. Surely that country must be the garden of the world, and if its people had the enterprise which moves this Yankee nation, imagination could not see a bound to the results they would produce there. As relevant to this comparison the Reverend gentleman stated that the Remedies employed there for the diseases to which they are subject, are invented and supplied to them by our own well known countryman, Dr. J. C. Ayer of Lowell Mass, and that not the people only, but the priesthood and the court of the Emperor down, have constant recourse in sickness to the Remedies of this widely celebrated American Chemist.—[Lederer, Boston.]

Summary of News.

Burnside's expedition is reported at Pamlico Sound and about to attack Newberne. The Mississippi expedition has returned to Cairo. Its movement was probably a military feint. Gen. Thomas in Kentucky has routed Zollicoffer's rebel army, killed Zollicoffer, and captured a large amount of supplies, horses, etc. Secretary Cameron has resigned and been appointed minister to Russia in place of Cassius M. Clay, who returns home to take part in the war. Edwin M. Stanton, Douglas democrat of Pennsylvania, has been appointed Secretary of War in place of Cameron. Our state legislature adjourned on Friday 7th January. Mason and Slidell had reached Bermuda. The news of their release had reached England, and caused great satisfaction. The rebel and ex-President Tyler is dead. His funeral was attended Jan. 21st by Jeff. Davis and his cabinet.

State Finances of Michigan.

The State Auditor of Michigan reports to the Legislature that the total available means in the Treasury the past year, were \$1,230,001, including \$523,083 derived from the war fund and the balance from taxes, amount left over from the previous year, and other sources of revenue. The expenses of the year have been \$1,258,235, (or \$28,000 in excess of receipts,) the war portion of the expenses, \$539,428. Of this sum the Government is sure to refund \$580,000, or enough to turn upon that portion of the national tax which falls to Michigan. The deficit of \$28,000 is more than balanced by the taxes due from the Detroit and Milwaukee, and the Michigan Southern Railroads; from the former \$22,000, and from the latter \$35,000. The total debt of the State is \$2,736,264, including \$449,100, war loan bonds. The aggregate delinquent taxes returned in 1860, was \$318,423.60. The State is debtor to the counties, \$23,533.01, and credited by \$200,146.72.

The Norfolk Day Book of Wednesday has a dispatch dated Goldsboro, January 21st, 4 P. M., announcing that one hundred vessels of the Burnside expedition are inside Pamlico Sound, and twenty steamers outside. No attack had been made, but the woman and children were leaving Newberne, where a fight is expected to take place.

A report just comes that Fort Pulaski has been abandoned by the rebels. Prudence was considered on their part the better part of valor. It was only a question of a very short time, as the fort was thoroughly invested and would have been taken in a few days.

Hon. Simon Cameron, Secretary of War, has resigned, and E. M. Stanton, Attorney General in the latter part of Buchanan's administration, is appointed in his stead. Mr. Cameron has been appointed Minister to Russia in place of C. M. Clay, who returns home to take part in the war.

SORGHUM.—A circular from the Patent Office says the results of the cultivation of Sorgum the past year settle the question of its practical success. The value of its product is now counted by millions. One of the difficulties is the want of pure seed. To meet this want this division has ordered seed from France for distribution the ensuing spring.